

Voltage Regular Test

Check the battery voltage - without the car running, a healthy battery should be 12.66, also check the voltage with car running, voltage should be from 13.5 to 14.5, ideally it would be 14.2 with a healthy battery -- this is about where voltage should be. Brighter headlamps on acceleration does not always mean there's a problem. Make sure the idle speed is also correct. If the amp meter needle is constantly maxed out then there may be a regulator problem.

1. Measure the Voltage across the two battery terminals with the engine off. Should be 12.4V to 12.5V
2. With the engine idling, make the same measurement. If you have a C1 with a generator, you are likely to see a little less than 12.4 because the generator isn't charging. If you have a C2 with an alternator, you ought to see around 14 Volts at idle.
3. Increase engine speed to about 2000 RPM and repeat the measurement. Regardless of alternator or generator, you should see 14-ish Volts.

If you measure significantly more than 14 Volts.... like 14.5 Volts or higher.... your charging system has a problem.... might be the VR, could be the alternator/generator also. But there is a problem.